**Hawaii becomes 49th to have a state League of Women Voters as Mrs. George Simson, state President (fifth from left), is presented official League gavel by Mrs. Robert J. Stuart, national President, March 3 in Honolulu. Others, left to right, are Mrs. James Lowers and Mrs. Walter Thorndike, members of state Board; Mrs. Robert Zurbach, national Organization Committee Chairman; Mrs. Eldon Dykes and Mrs. Edward Beechert, members of state Organizing Committee; Mrs. Haskell Rosenblum, member of national Board, who attended ceremony while on vacation in Hawaii; Mrs. Louis P. Warsh, state Vice President; Mrs. Allan Saunders, state Organizing Committee Chairman; Mrs. Stanley Carpenter, state Secretary-Treasurer.**

mainstay claim that fluctuations in price have undermined development attempts and negated advantages gained through aid extended to them. The Agreement is intended to stabilize prices in consuming and producing countries at a fair level.

**WATER RESOURCES:** House Interior and Insular Affairs Committee agreed February 10 to report H.R. 1111, the Water Resources Planning Act. Senate passed similar bill February 25.

**WATER POLLUTION CONTROL:** Senate January 28 passed S. 4, permitting federal stream standards, increasing federal-grant ceilings for single and multimunicipal construction projects, and promoting research into the problems of combined storm drainage and sanitary sewage systems. House Public Works Committee held hearings in February. League of Women Voters filed statement in support of some sections of bill.*

**D.C. HOME RULE:** Senate District of Columbia Committee held hearings March 9 and 10 on S. 8111 to provide local self-government for District of Columbia. League of Women Voters filed statement.* The bill provides an elected mayor, city council of 15 to be elected by wards, and a nonvoting Delegate from the District in the House of Representatives. The bill also provides a formula for a federal payment to the District, to compensate for limitation of tax base caused by federal and other nontaxable installations and for services supplied by the District because of its unique situation as the national Capital. Senate is expected to pass bill. No action has been scheduled on companion bill H.R. 4644 in the House.

**APPALACHIA:** Congress completed action March 3, with House passage of bill, authorizing $1.1 billion for development of Appalachia – 360 counties including all of W. Va., and parts of Ala., Ga., Ky., Md., N.C., Ohio, Pa., S.C., Tenn., Va. (A number of western N.Y. counties may also be included.)

An Appalachian Regional Commission (composed of one federal member and the governor or his representative from each state covered by the Act) was created to prepare an economic development program for the area and to coordinate the programs authorized by the bill.

Authorizations include: $840 million in grants for a 5-year road construction program, $41 million in grants for multicounty demonstration health facilities, $17 million in grants to control erosion and sediment damage and promote soil and water conservation and development; $5 million in fiscal 1966 and 1967 for loans to set up timber development organizations; $36.5 million in grants to reduce acid mine drainage from abandoned coal mines, to rehabilitate strip and surface mines, to extinguish mine fires, and to step up fish and wildlife restoration projects in connection with mining area restoration.

Supplemental funds were authorized for projects in Appalachia under the Vocational Education Act and the Federal Water Pollution Control Act; the Housing Act of 1964 was amended to make the new Commission eligible to receive planning grants under that Act. Finally, $90 million was authorized for a special fund to increase the federal share under existing grant-in-aid programs in Appalachia.

* *Copies of League statements available from national office, 10¢ each.*

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